United States Air Force Auxiliary

Minnesota Wing, Civil Air Patrol

For Immediate Release

For more information contact: 1st Lt Al Pabon, 612-296-0474

FAMILY RECEIVES CIVIL Air PATROL STATE AWARD

Breezy Point, MN – The Erickson Family of Jordan, MN received Minnesota Wing's CAP Family of the Year Award during a ceremony on May 4th. The Erickson's have 3 family members enrolled in CAP C/SSgt Kalli Erickson, C/A1C Tucker Erickson and C/A1C Stevianne Erickson. They are members of Viking Squadron that meets Tuesday Nights at Bloomington Covenant Church.

The Family of the Year Award selection is based upon CAP member or non-member family contribution of time, effort and skills in support of Civil Air Patrol activities. The Erickson's could not be at the award ceremony but sent this greeting to the wing.

"We, as a family, are so honored to have been nominated for the Family of the Year! "COOL!" and "AWESOME!" and "That is REALLY NEAT!" were exclamations heard when we received your letter!

My husband laughed as he said, "It must have been your cookies!" I chuckled back that it had to be all the times he put out "THE PINK CLOTH" for Search and Rescue mission training. Is it that we have 3 kids, soon to be 4 in the VIKING Squadron? We just can't imagine that we have done anything above or beyond the other families involved in Civil Air Patrol! But, we are grateful for the thoughtfulness of those who nominated us! We have such an ENCOURAGING, COHESIVE Squadron; it would be out of character for any member or their family NOT to give it all they could!

We have discovered who nominated us and have shared our appreciation to them for thinking of us, and we also heartily accept Wing Commander, Dale Hoium, and your congratulations!

We do want to pass on to you, and those serving at the Wing Headquarters, how GRATEFUL WE ARE for CIVIL AIR PATROL! We appreciate the tremendous amount of time, training, encouragement, and experience the kids have received from the seniors in Viking Squadron and the Commanding Officers! We are so thankful that our children have been able to participate in such a vast array of educational service and involvement in the community! THANK-YOU for choosing to be there and serving the youth of our state!"

Sincerely, Jim, Kathy, and Tal Erickson C/SSgt Kalli Erickson C/A1C Tucker Erickson C/A1C Stevianne Erickson:

The award was presented at the 2002 Minnesota Wing Conference, held at Breezy Point Resort 3-5 May.

Civil Air Patrol, the official U. S. Air Force Auxiliary, is a civilian, volunteer, nonprofit, service organization. The unpaid members perform more than 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue and Coordination Center. Volunteers also take a leading role in aerospace education and conduct one of America's finest youth programs through CAP Cadet Programs.

There are more than 1300 Civil Air Patrol members in Minnesota.

For more information about Civil Air Patrol go to our website www.mnwg.cap.gov or call 1-800-FLY-2338.